

**Welcome to Celebration Presbyterian Church**  
Welcome, friends, from far and near. Let us worship God who is surely here. Let us pray, sing, share the Word and give; then let us joyfully go into God's world to live. \*Please indicate your desires for visitation, or information about joining Celebration Church on the Ritual of Friendship Pad. \*Prayer cards are provided for sharing your joys and concerns. Please write your prayer requests on a card and the ushers will collect them.

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**  
  
O God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty, reconciliation out of estrangement and comfort out of unrest. Open our hearts to know that you do not leave us alone, but labor to make all of us whole. Help us to perceive your unseen hand in the unfolding of our lives, and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit, that we may know the joy and peace of being your beloved children. Amen.

*Celebrating our sixteenth year of faithful living and giving!*  

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**Sunday, December 23, 2018**

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**Advent 4**

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**THE CHURCH GATHERS**  
  
**Prelude** Sarah Abushakra  
  
Chiming the Hour  
  
Introit ***Veni Emmanuel***  
Sarah Abushakra, Soloist  
  
**Advent 4** – Lighting Candle 1, 2,3 and 4 on the Advent Wreath  
**The Tomlin Family**

**\*Hymn No. 88 Verse 6** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*  
  
**Greeting**  
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Welcome, Ritual of Friendship, Prayer Cards, Announcements and Opening Prayer

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**  
The Peace of Christ be with You. **And also with you!**  
*(Please exchange signs of Christ's peace with your brothers and sisters in Christ near you.)*

**TO WORSHIP THE LORD OUR GOD**  
  
**\*Responsive Call to Worship** Liturgist: Priscilla Mulligan  
Seasons come and seasons go, **but our God endures forever.**  
Our faith exhibits ebb and flow, **but our God endures forever.**  
Our lives may freeze up or may grow, **but our God endures forever.**  
So let our souls magnify the Lord our God this day.

**\*Hymn No. 133** *O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
  
*The Christmas Gospel* **Luke 2:1-20**  
  
<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered.

**\*Hymn No. 103 vs. 1** *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*  
  
<sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.<sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**\*Hymn No. 103 vs. 2** *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*  
  
<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

**\*Hymn No. 103 vs. 3** *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*  
  
<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

**\*Hymn No. 103 vs. 4** *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*  
  
<sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Christmas Gospel from Luke...**Thanks be to God!**

**\*Hymn No. 592** *Holy, Holy, Holy* SANCTUS  
  
Time With Young Disciples *Children’s Church follows in Room 5*  
*The children are invited to come to the steps for the*  
*Time With Young Disciples*  
**(Hymn No. 115 Away in a Manger)**

**TO WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER AND SHARED STEWARDSHIP**  
  
Prayers of the People – Sharing Our Joys and Concerns  
**Please pass your prayer cards to an usher.**

**Prayer of Intercession and The Lord’s Prayer**  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

Giving of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings as Faithful Stewards  
All things in heaven and earth belong to God, who is coming in glory to reveal a new creation. Let us offer our lives to the Lord. 2 Peter 3:8-15

Offertory *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper* Thomas Keesecker  
Katelyn Burrows, Sarah Abushakra, Tom Dendy

**\*Doxology Hymn No. 144 (Vs. 4)** *In the Bleak Midwinter*  
**What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what can I give him: give my heart.**

**\*Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**  
**As we offer up these gifts to you, O God, help us to call to mind the wonders you have given us. Let us think on the exuberance of laughter, the tenderness of love, the satisfaction of accomplishment. Connect us with that part of our spirit that knows gratitude. As you have often renewed us, we ask that our money may bring renewal. May it bring new opportunities, new hope, new life to others. May our gifts bring renewal to those beaten down by life, tempted to give up in despair. May they bring renewal to those who carry a heavy burden of guilt so that they feel forgiveness. May they bring renewal to those whose faith has become stale and dry. May we give these gifts to you in gratitude, love, joy and hope. Amen.**

**\*Hymn No. 123 (Vs. 1, 4 & 5)** *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

**TO WORSHIP THROUGH WORD, SACRAMENT AND WITNESS**  
  
Scripture **Isaiah 40:1-11** NRSV  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Comfort for Christmas...and Beyond* Tom Dendy

**\*Hymn No. 129** *Lo, How a Rose E’re Blooming*

**AND RESPOND IN FAITHFUL SERVICE IN THE WORLD**  
  
\*Charge and Benediction  
  
**\*Hymn No. 121** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
\*Postlude Sarah Abushakra  
(\*If able, please stand at these points in the service.)

CELEBRATION HAPPENINGS		
Sun Dec 23	<b>ADVENT 4</b>	
	Choir Rehearsal	10:00 am
	Coffee and Fellowship	10:15 am
	Worship, Nursery, Children's Church	11:00 am
Mon Dec 24	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP 6:45 pm</b>	
	Carols, Communion and Candlelight – Family Friendly	
Mon – Fri	Church Office Closed	
Sun Dec 30	<b>FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS</b>	
	<b>5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY SPECIAL OFFERING TO BE RECEIVED</b>	
	Choir Rehearsal	10:00 am
	Coffee and Fellowship	10:15 am
	Worship, Nursery, Children's Church	11:00 am

Upcoming Opportunities

Your year-end giving needs to be received by December 31 to be included in your 2018 giving record.

Mon Dec 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion 6:45 p.m.  
Church Office Closed

Tues Dec 25—Christmas - Happy Birthday Jesus – Office Closed

Wed Dec 26-Fri Dec 28 – Church Offices Closed

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFTS  
TO OUR SANTA’S SNEAKERS COLLECTION.**

We collected 114 pairs of sneakers.

We also collected 485 pairs of socks.

***THE SALVATION ARMY EXPRESSED THEIR GRATITUDE!***



**Advent 4**  
**December 23, 2018**  
**11:00 a.m. Worship**  
*Celebrating our 16<sup>th</sup> year of  
Faithful Mission and Ministry!*

**Serving December 23**

**Visitor Table:** Margaret Reeder      **Nursery:** Vicki Jacobs  
**Children’s Church PreK-Kindergarten:** Tonja Paolini  
**Grades 1-5:** Trudy Miller      **Preacher:** Tom Dendy  
**Media Shout:** Bernadine Lamar    **Sound Board:** Nicklaus McIlrath  
**Liturgist:** Priscilla Mulligan  
**Elder of the Week:** Cecilia Evans – 843-236-1153  
**Ushers:** Jenny and Rainee Taylor, Barb Johnson

**Serving December 24**

**Media Shout** – Bernadine Lamar  
**Sound Board** – Nicklaus McIlrath

**Serving December 30**

**Visitor Table:** Betsy Hughes      **Nursery:** Vicki Simon  
**Children’s Church PreK-Kindergarten:** Tonja Paolini  
**Grades 1-5:** Trudy Miller      **Preacher:** Tom Dendy  
**Media Shout:** Katrena White    **Sound Board:** Carol Butler  
**Liturgist:** Carol Butler  
**Elder of the Week:** Bernadine Lamar – 843-234-1935  
**Ushers:** Bob and Linda Miller, Barb Johnson

**SERVICE/SERMON NOTES AND REMINDERS:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**2300 Carolina Forest Blvd – Myrtle Beach SC 29579**  
**Church Office Hours** Monday – Thursday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Phone: 843-903-0308 Fax: 843-903-0345 Preschool: 843-903-3211

**Dr. Tom Dendy, Pastor**    **Pastor’s Email:** revtomdendy@gmail.com  
**Office Administrator:** Linda Berry  
**Church Email:** celebrationpresbyterianmb@gmail.com

**Preschool Director:** Susan Spraker    **Email:** cppreschool08@aol.com  
**Church Music Director:** Sarah Abushakra  
**Email:** slabushakra@gmail.com  
**Facebook:** Celebration Presbyterian Church  
**Website:** www.celebrationpresbyterianchurch.org



**Our Purpose**  
*To Celebrate God’s Glory by Reaching, Teaching,  
and Sending People to Love and Serve the Lord.*

**JOIN US AT CELEBRATION**  
*We are Christ followers who are open,  
accepting, loving and welcoming to all!*

**OUR MISSION** *is to Proclaim Jesus as Lord and  
Savior, Praise and Worship God,  
Prepare our hearts to share God’s Word,  
and Provide Love and Service to ALL!*